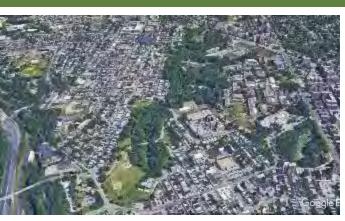
# Lower Stony Run Strategic Plan

Community Input Meeting #2

March 8, 2022









Sponsored by
Friends of Stony Run Stony Run Planning Committee
In partnership with
Johns Hopkins University



## **Overview**

- Introduction
- Input Summary
- Assessment
- Capital Projects
- Other Emerging Ideas
- Next Steps



# **Introductions**

- Sandy Sparks, Chair Strategic Plan Steering Committee
- Amy Johanson, President, Friends of Stony Run
- Jonathan Dandois, Secretary, Steering Committee
- Tom McGilloway, Planner, Mahan Rykiel Associates

### **Steering Committee**

Friends of Stony Run Representatives (3) and Sandy Sparks\*, Chair, Steering Committee

Amy Johanson\* James Wolf\* Craig Huntley\*

JHU Representatives (3)

Jennifer J. Mielke, Director, Local Government and Community Affairs

Chi Yan, Architect, Planning and Architecture

Professor Anand Pandian, Chair, Department of Anthropology

Department of Planning Representative Reni Lawal, Northern District Planner

BCRP Representative Valerie McGuire

DPW Representative Kim Grove

DOT Representative Valorie LaCour

Boy Scouts Peter Wayner\*

Community Representatives:

Tuscany-Canterbury Linda Eberhart

Roland Park Travers Nelson\*

Keswick Neetu Dhawn-Gray

Wyman Park Simon Torres

Wyman Park South Liz Baker, Explorations Teacher, GreenMount School

Remington Phong Le

Hampden Jenny Katz\*

Stone Hill Alice Greely Nelson\*

Steering Committee Secretary, Jonathan Dandois\*

\*FSR Board Member



# Acknowledgements

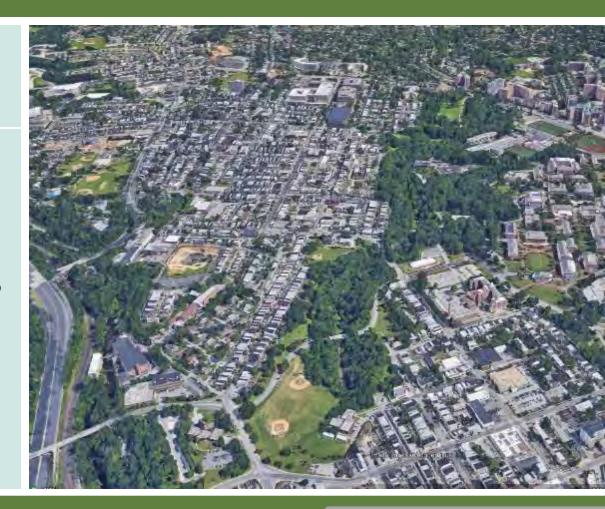






## **Meeting Purpose**

- Provide **overview** of work done to date
- 2. Review emerging ideas
- 3. Facilitate **discussion** to identify what is missing and to share initial reactions
- 4. Share next steps and additional opportunities for input



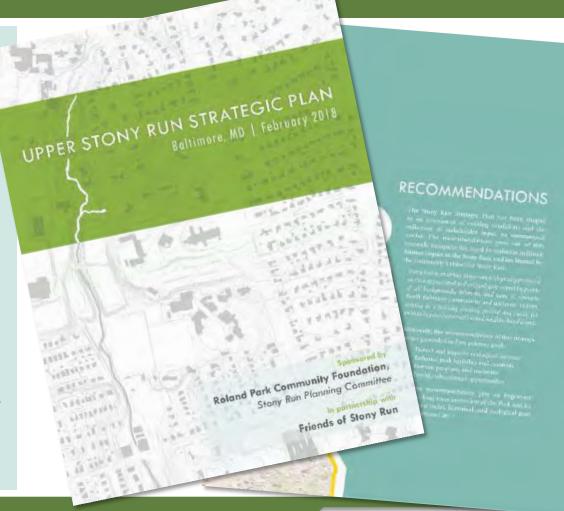


#### **Plan Purpose**

**INITIATED BY: Friends of Stony Run** 

A public effort to create an **INCLUSIVE AND FORWARD-THINKING VISION** for Stony Run and identify a **FRAMEWORK FOR ENHANCEMENTS**—from developing planting strategies for key areas to identifying improvements and special opportunities.

- Build upon Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan (Northern Parkway to Overhill Road/University Parkway) sponsored by Roland Park Community Foundation
- Prepare companion document for the Lower Stony Run (mostly Wyman Park)
- Wyman Park is only major park without a master planframework is needed to guide city and volunteer projects
- Important for Wyman Park master plan to be in context of the overall Stony Run Park
- JHU initiating their Campus Master Plan Update and Sustainability Master Plan

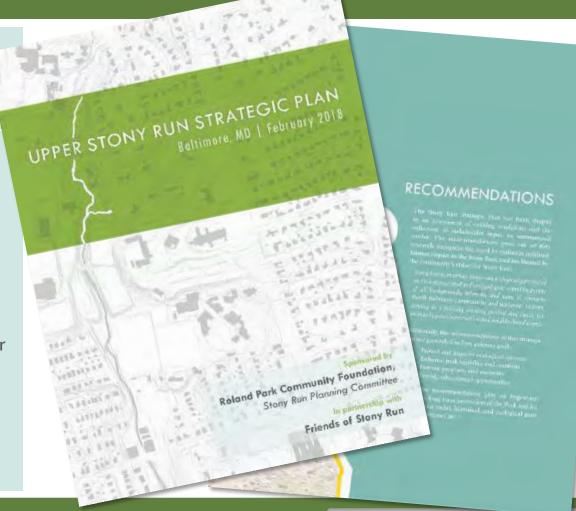




## **Plan Purpose**

#### Note:

- Much of the plan is documenting/formalizing what is already happening or underway
- As a strategic plan, the document will identify recommendations where more detailed study and/or detailed design plans are needed





## **Lower Stony Run During** Covid-19











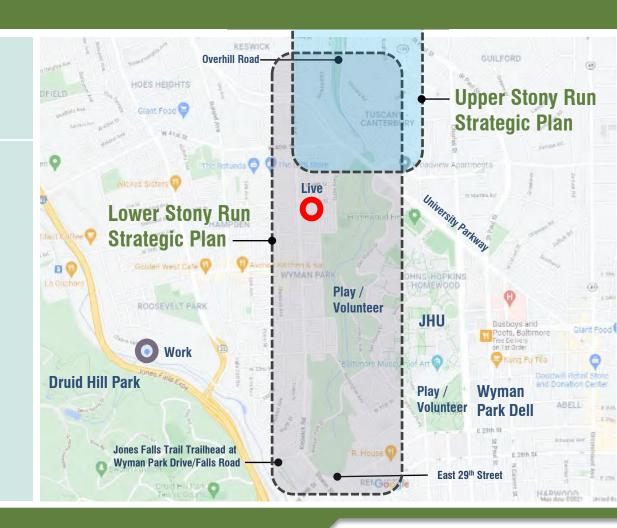
### **Plan Study Area**

#### **Primary Focus**

Overhill Road to Falls Trail Trailhead at Wyman Park Drive/Falls Road

#### Overlap with Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan

Overhill Road to University Parkway





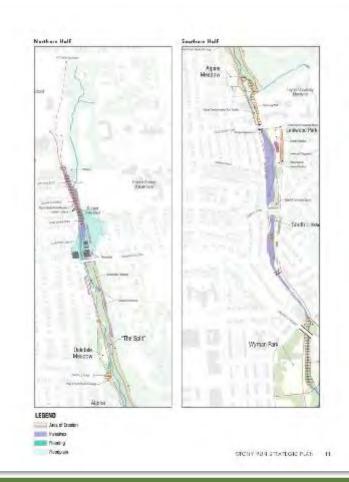
## **Plan Components**

#### 1. Assessment

- Recent/Planned Projects
- Path and Accessibility
- Site Amenities
- Ecology
- Open Space
- Programming
- Users
- Other?

#### 2. Recommendations

- General
- Area Specific
- 3. Design Guidelines
- 4. Implementation







#### **Schedule Milestones**

1.	Steering Committee Meetings	9/2021 12/2021 02/2022 06/2022
2.	Stakeholder Group Representative	es 11/2-12/2022
3.	Community Outreach #1	11/4/2021
4.	Site Walks 1	1/13 and 11/21/2021
5.	Capital State Bond Submission	01/2022
6.	Survey	02/2022
7.	Community Outreach #2	03/2022
8.	Focus Group Discussions	03-04/2022
9.	Draft Plan	04/2022
9.	Community Outreach #3	05/2022
10.	Final Plan	06/2022

## **Upcoming Opportunities for Engagement**

- 1. Community Outreach #2 (Tonite)
- 2. Online Comments (March 8-March 24)
- 3. Focus Group Discussions (March/April)
- 4. Community Outreach #3 (May)
- 5. Draft Plan Online (May)
- 6. General Online Comments (On-Going)





## Input

- 1. Steering Committee Meetings
- 2. Website
- 3. Community Meeting #1
- 4. Site Walks (2)
- 5. Survey
- 6. Community Meeting #2 (Tonite)
- 7. Ongoing

#### Themes

- Strategic invasive plant removal
- **Special use areas** (gathering /playgrounds/dog)
- Unique features (bridges, ruins, etc.)
- Wildlife/nature/birds
- Potential for environmental study
- Community- Connecting us to each other, to our dogs, to nature, etc.
- Physical connections (neighborhoods, Jones Falls)
- Accessibility (access points, to water, ADA)
- Walking Path hazards
- Challenges-coordination of different efforts, volunteers, conflicts among user groups
- Water quality
- Unintended consequences from "doing good"
- Partners and partnerships















#### Question 1

What are aspects, features, and/or uses that you think are the most important to protect or enhance when it comes to the Lower Stony. Run and/or its associated park spaces?

# SURVEY

walking/running maintenance.

#### **DEMOGRAPHICS**

378 INDIVIDUALS Responded to the Survey in Total

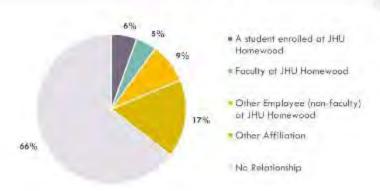
600+ Written Comments

Does Not Visit, or

Has Never Visited, the Lower Stony Run

#### RELATIONSHIP TO JHU

N=373



#### RESIDING NEIGHBORHOOD

N=378

	11-57-0
Wyman Park	23%
Hampden	19%
Roland Park	9%
Remington	7%
Charles Village	6%
Tuscany-Canterbury	6%
Other Location in Baltimore City	6%
Keswick	4%
Wyman Park South	4%
Stone Hill	4%
Johns Hopkins Homewood Campus	2%
Other Location in Maryland	2%
Guilford	2%
Baltimore County	2%
Evergreen	1%
Wyndhurst	1%
Jones Falls Area	1%
Homeland South	1%
Reservoir Hill	1%
Blythewood	.3%
North Roland Park/Poplar Hill	.3%
The Orchards	0%
Woodbrook	0%

### AVOIDANCE

#### HAVE YOU EVER DELIBERATELY AVOIDED THE LOWER STONY RUN?

N=6

AREAS THAT HAVE BEEN INTENTIONALLY AVOIDED

N=3











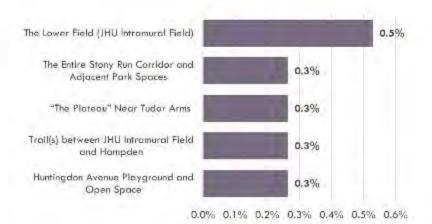


REASONS FOR AVOIDING OR LIMITING VISITS

N-3

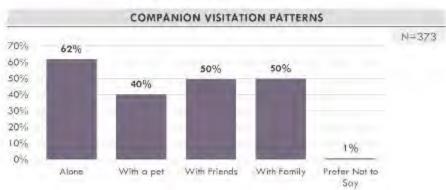
Concern(s) for safety (crime-related), concern regarding conflict(s) with other users, and complaints from others about unleashed dogs

5-

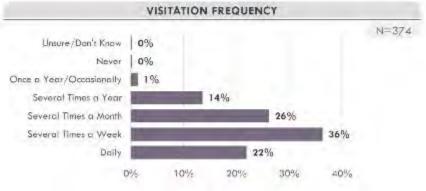


## **QUESTIONS FOR VISITORS**









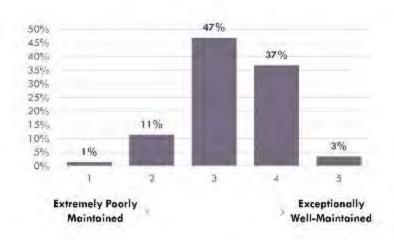
## THOUGHTS ON CURRENT CONDITIONS

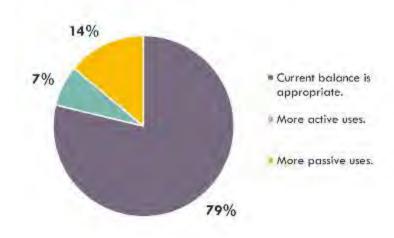
PERCEPTIONS OF CURRENT MAINTENANCE

DESIRED BALANCE OF USES

N=375

N=372

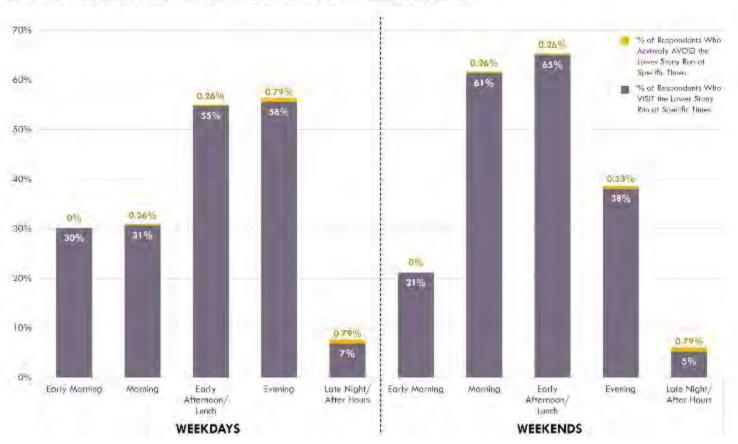




Questions 6 and 14

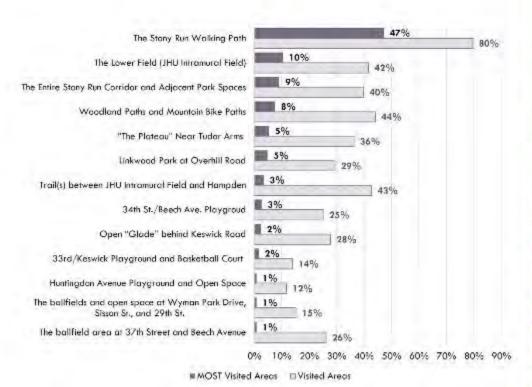
"What, if any, specific times of the day do you avoid visiting the Lower Stony Run and/or any areas within its associated park spaces?"

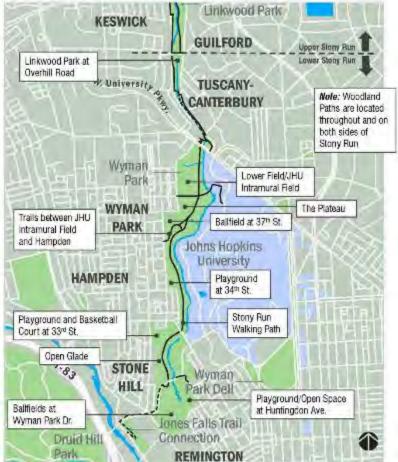
COMPARED TO "During what time(s) do you typically visit the Lower Stony Run and/or its associated park spaces?"



#### Questions 16 and 17

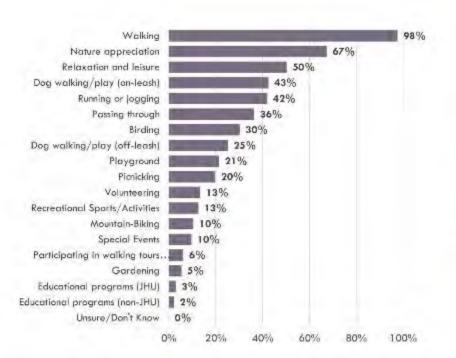
What section(s) of the Lower Stony Run and/or its associated park spaces do you currently or typically visit? And which ONE section do you visit MOST OFTEN?





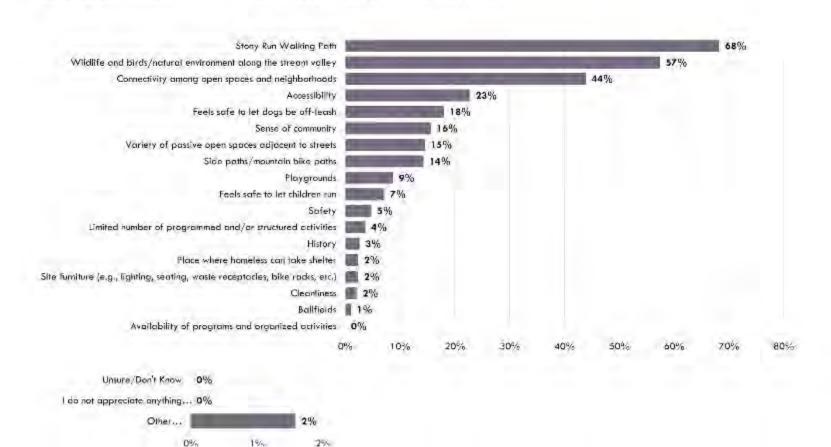
Question 18

What activities have you participated in along the Lower Stony Run and/or its associated park spaces?

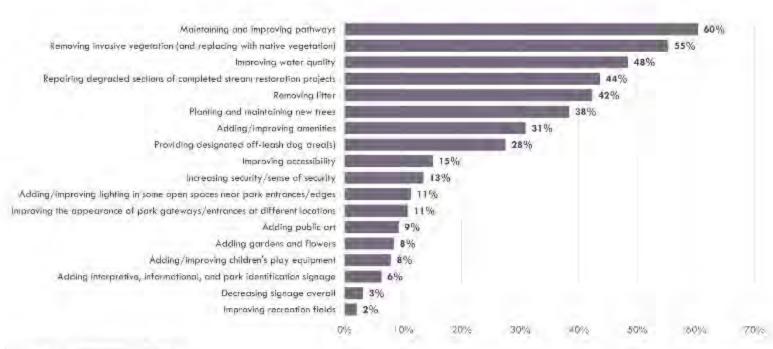


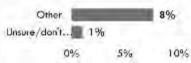


Question 22
What 3 things do you appreciate most about the Lower Stony Run and/or associated park spaces?

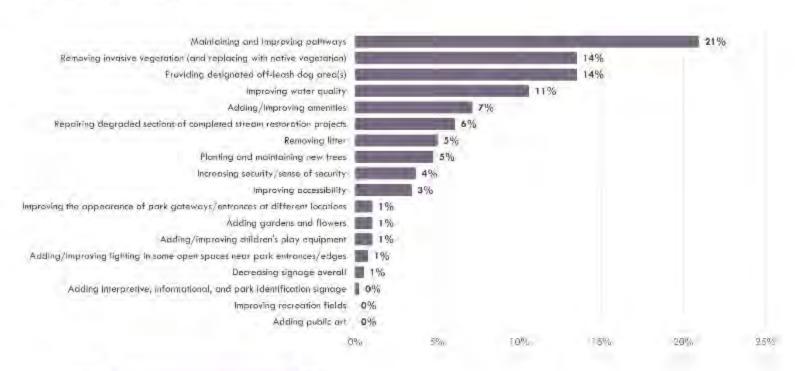


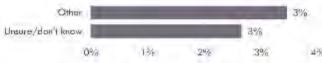
Question 24
What are your highest priorities for the Lower Stony Run and its associated park spaces?

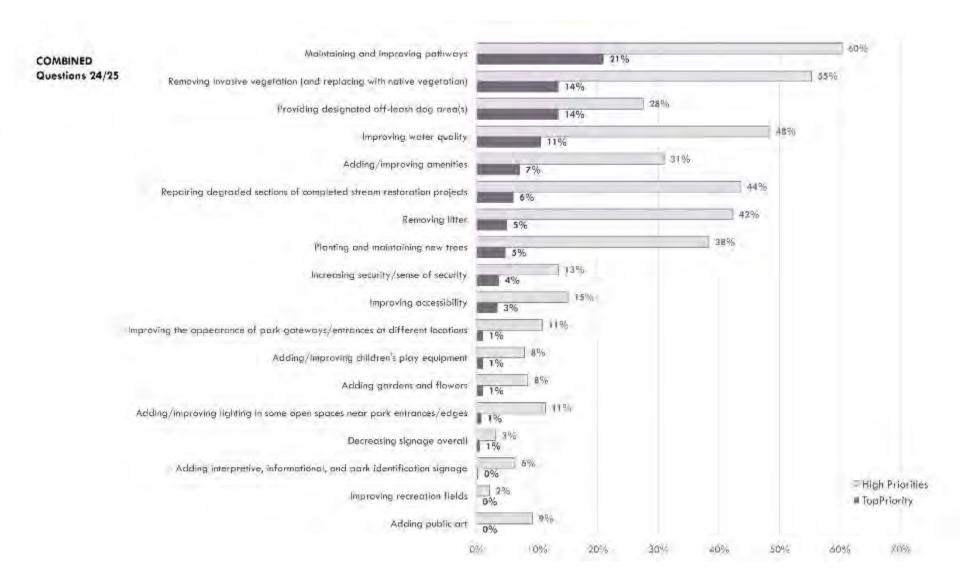




Question 25
What is your TOP priority for the Lower Stony Run and its associated park spaces?







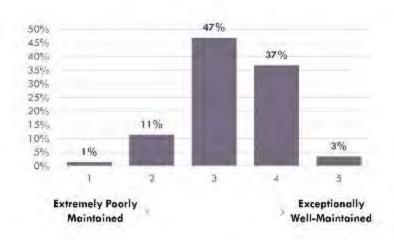
## THOUGHTS ON CURRENT CONDITIONS

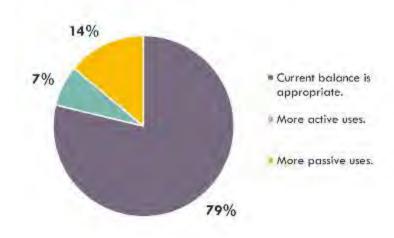
PERCEPTIONS OF CURRENT MAINTENANCE

DESIRED BALANCE OF USES

N=375

N=372



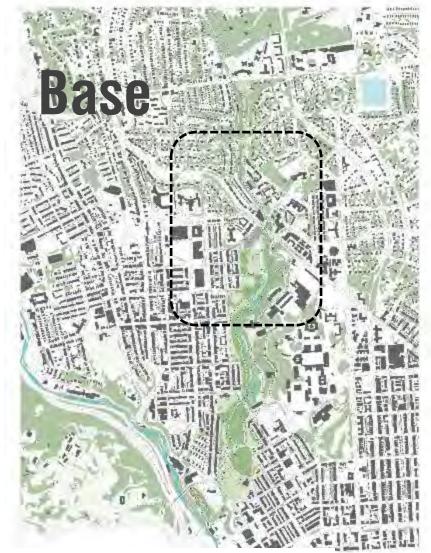


"It's unique to have an urban trail that feels wild and feels distant from the adjacent residential neighborhood without feeling unsafe or lonely."

"Preserve wilderness while making it accessible to people, dogs, and kids."

# "Don't overthink it. It is awesome."



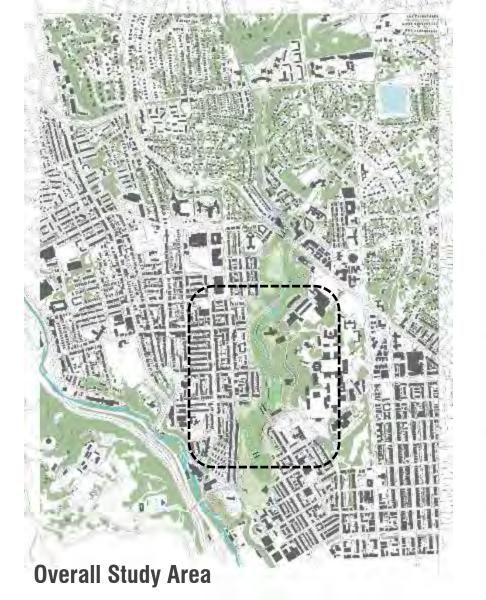


**Overall Study Area** 

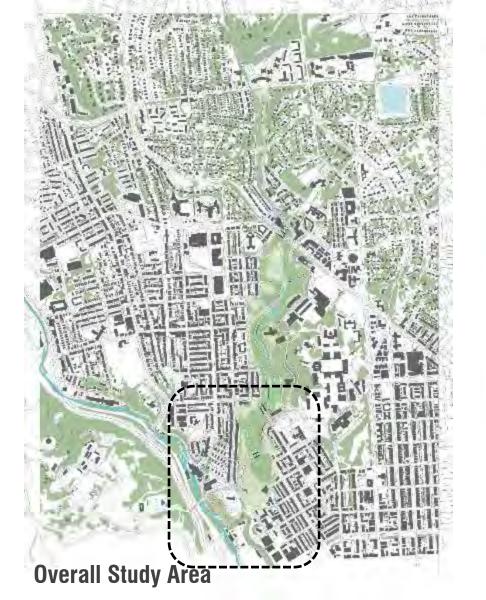


**North Segment** 



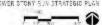


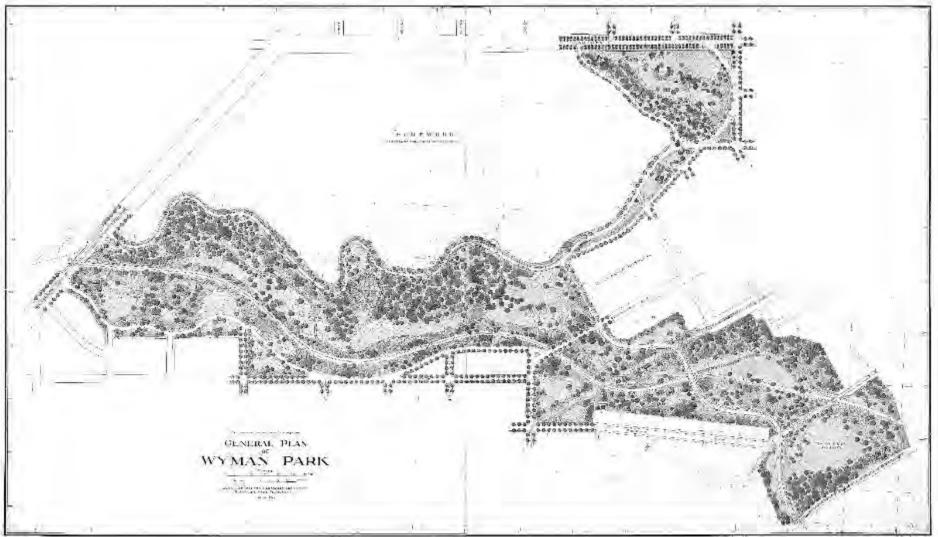






**South Segment** 







# Floodplain



**North Segment** 











**South Segment** 

OWER STONY BUY STRATEGIC PLAN





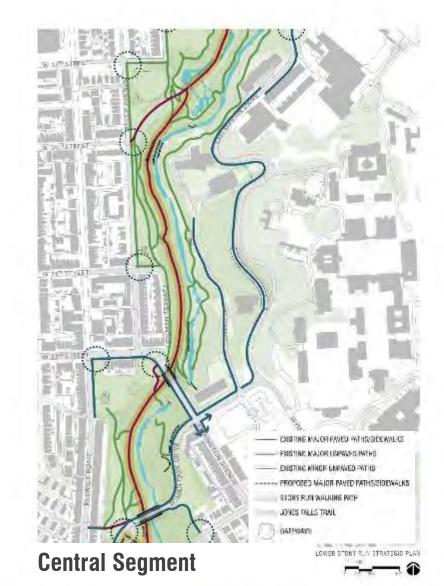
## **Path Network**







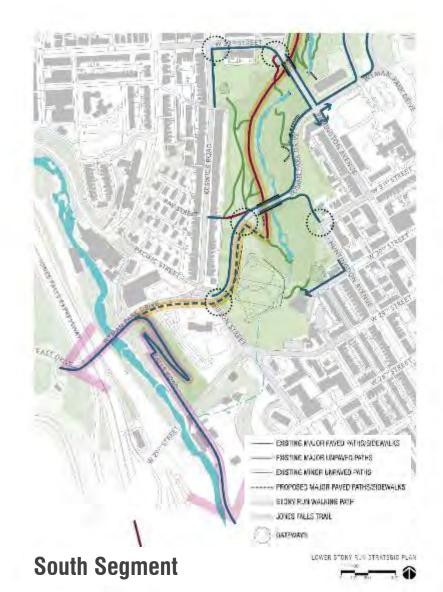












**Open/Activity Spaces** 

















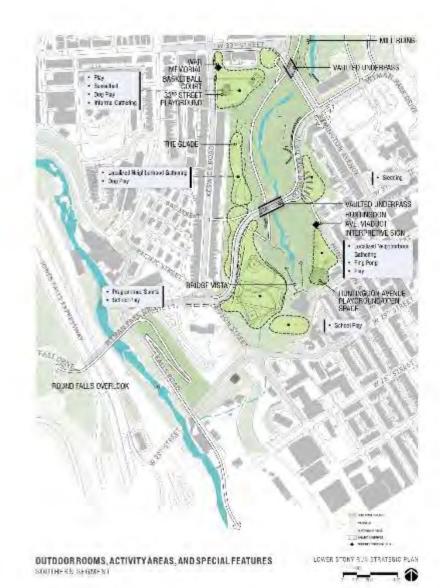






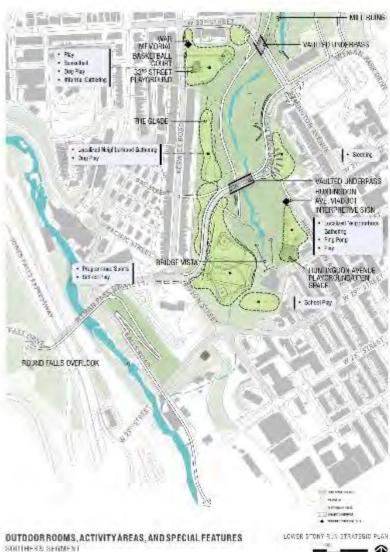




























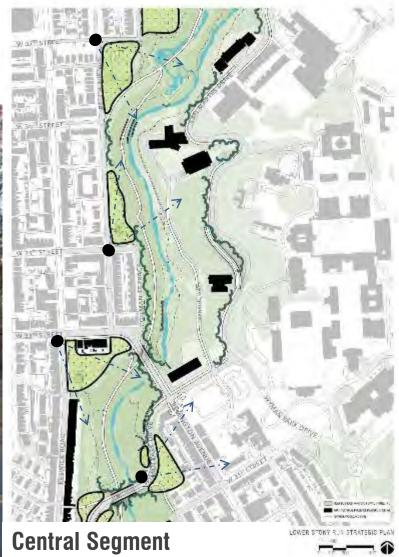


## Perimeter



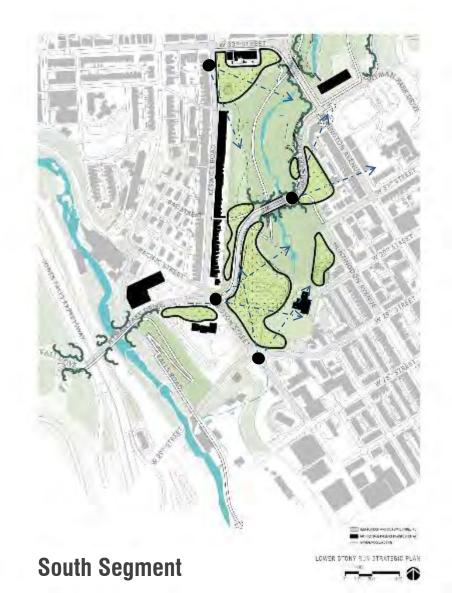












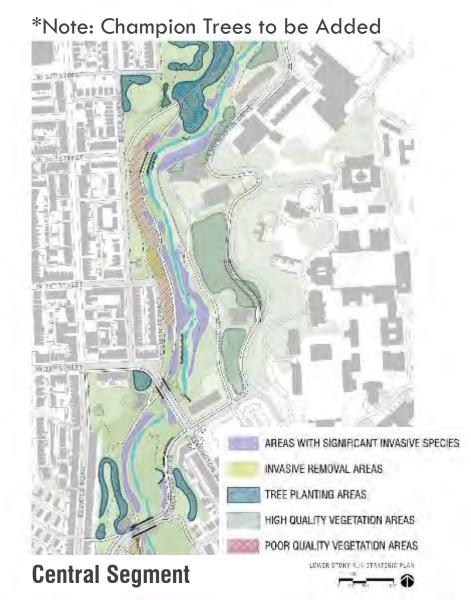
# **Planting Areas**





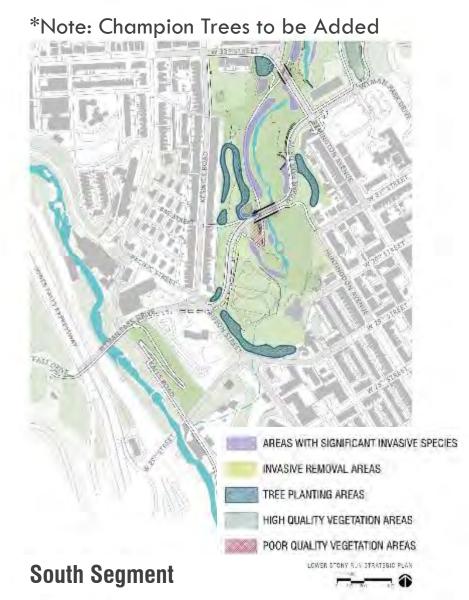
















# **Stream Repair**

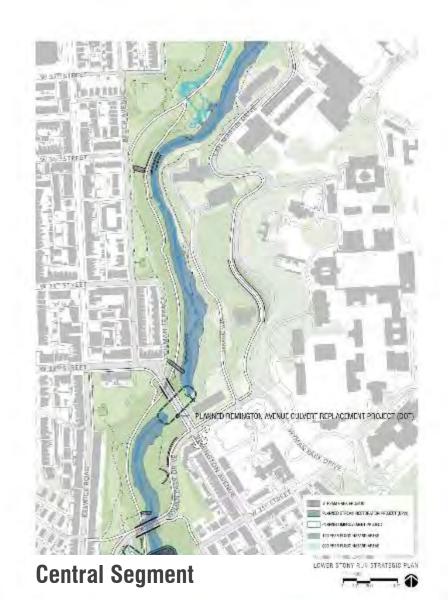




















# General (Consistent with USRSP)

G1 Water Quality Testing

G2 Stream Bank Repair

G3 Pathway Stabilization/Repair

G4 Invasive Plant Removal/New Plantings

G5 Bird Box Project/Wildlife Habitats

**G6** Encroachment

G7 Signage

G8 Site Amenities

**G9** Property Line Demarcation

G10 Leash Policy

G11 Bike Usage

G12 Park Name and Recognition

## **Programming**

G13 Gatherings/Events

G14 Permitting

G15 Tours

G16 Memorials/Recognition Markers

G17 Public Art

\* USRSP= Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan

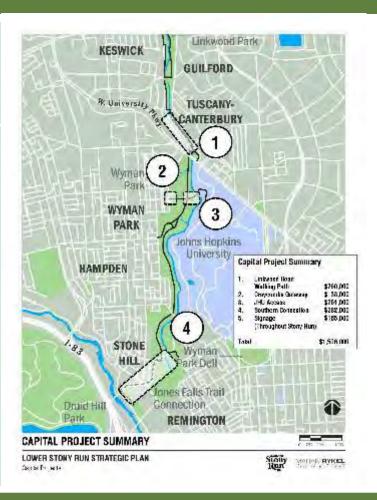


## **Capital Projects**

(Completion of Walking Path/Connectivity/Accessibility)

1.	Linkwood Road Walking Path	\$760,000
2.	Craycombe Gateway	\$ 38,000
3.	JHU Access	\$261,000
4.	Southern Connection	\$282,000
5.	Signage	\$165,000

Total \$1,506,000



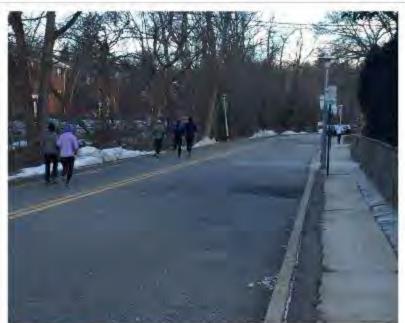






LOWER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN Capits Projects







Existing conditions along Linkwood Road. View shows narrow sidewalk and sidewalk obstructions along this important connection. Pedestrians walk in the street which is dengarous. The Tuscany Contentury Neighborhood Association Streets Committee has developed the concept illustrated on the following page. Their process has included extensive community octicach over two years.

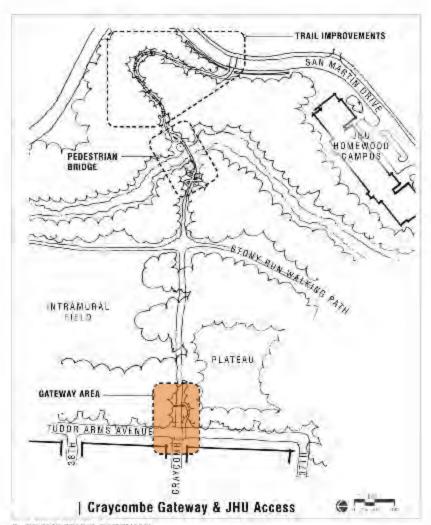


### 1. LINKWOOD ROAD WALKING PATH

LOWER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN Capits Projects



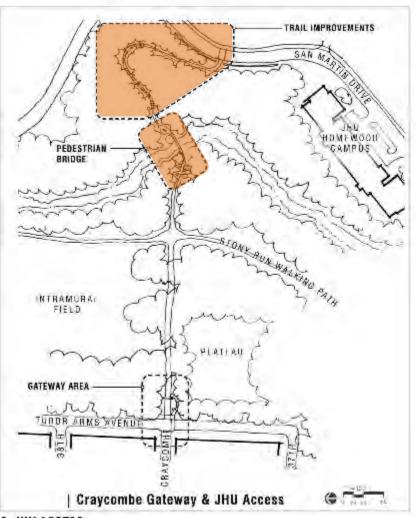




### 2. CRAYCOMBE GATEWAY

LOWER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN Capits Projects



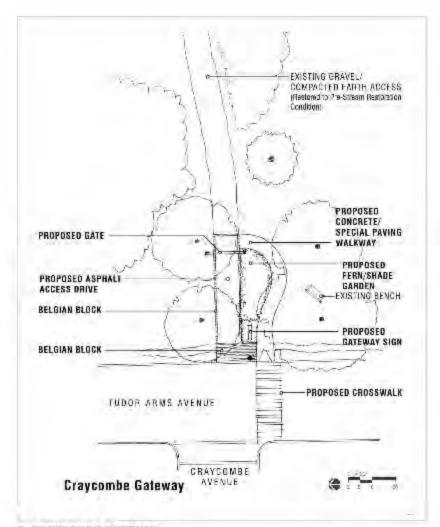


### 3. JHU ACCESS

LOWER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN Capits Projects









LOWER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN Capits Projects







Existing conditions at the Craycombe Gateway View shows access drive at heavily used pedestrian gateway into Wyman Park and the Story Bun. A gate is necessary to keep unlawful vehicles from entering and a safer and accessible paving surface is needed for padestrians.

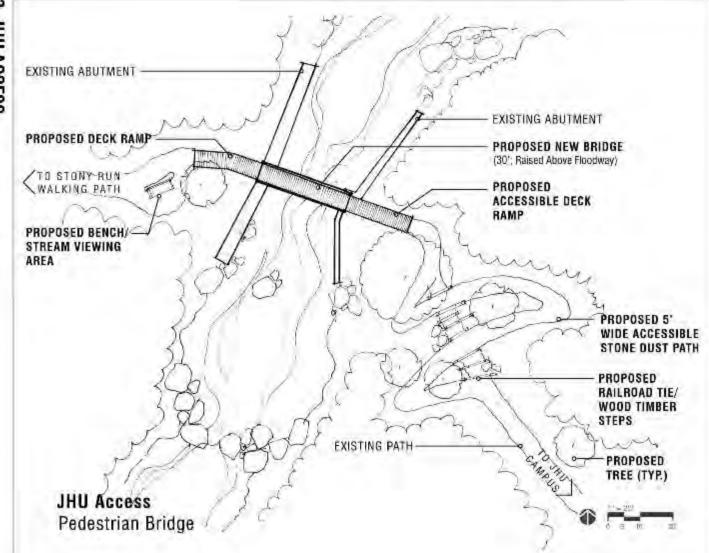


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LOWER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN Dapits Projects

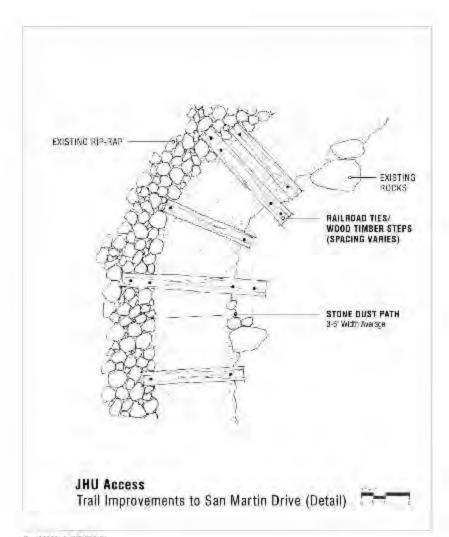


ALIAN RYKIEL









### 3. JHU ACCESS

LOWER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN Capits Projects







Existing conditions at the JHU Access, View shows existing, heavily used hidge crossing the Stony Run that is in poor condition. The proposed bridge would be similar to the two installed in 2015 along Linkwood Road. Pathway lacking up to San Martin Drive is steep and heavily proded.

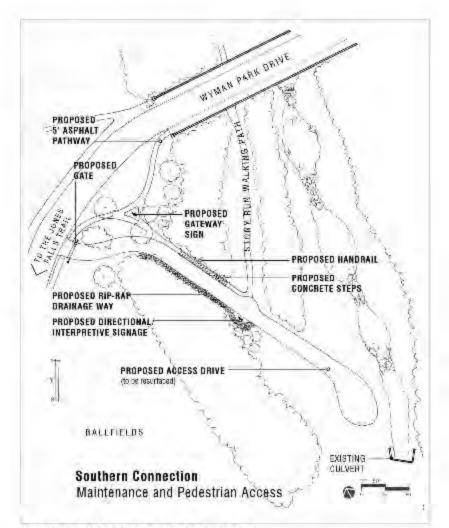


3. JHU ACCESS

LOWER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN Capita Projects







### 4. SOUTHERN CONNECTION (DETAIL PLAN)

LOWER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN Capits Projects









Existing conditions along the Southern Connection to the Jones Falls Trail and Chuid Hill Park.

*(op Leff.* Inadequate existing vehicular access to the Lower Story Run where routine DPW truck access is needed to clear debris that blocks the culvert entrance following floods and to maintain the lower stream.

Top Night: Lack of a sidewalk along the park frontage on Wyman Park Drive between the Stony Run Walking Parh, by the stream, and the Jones Falls Trail.

Softons: Diagram highlights the opportunity to complete this missing link in the approximately 3-mite pathway between the Jones Falls and Northern Parkway neighborhoods.



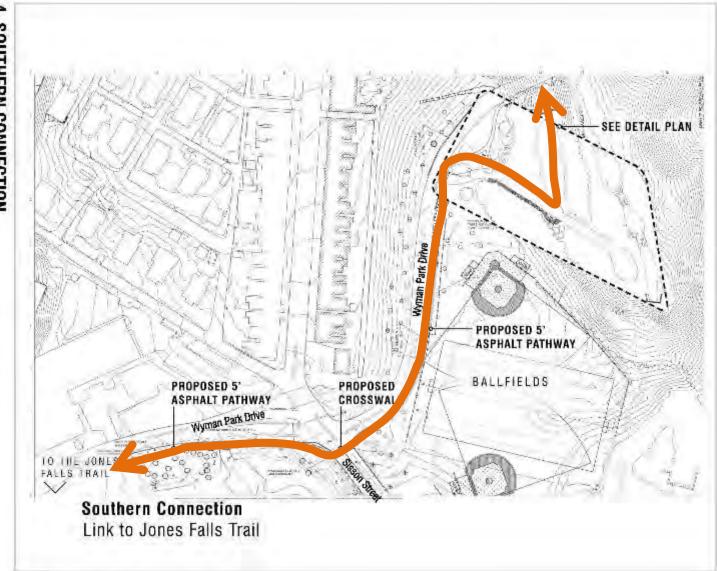
### 4. SOUTHERN CONNECTION

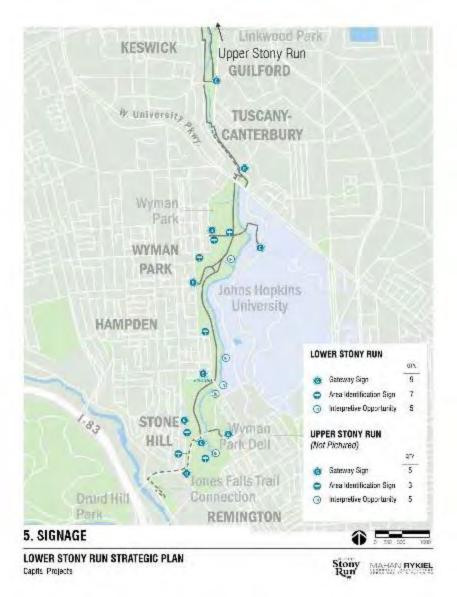
LOWER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN Capita Projects

















Examples of Galeway, Area Identification Signs and Interpretive Signs. The top left image is a prototype installed along the Stony Run. Friends of Stony Run secured grant money for this sign and utilized Baltimore City Department of Hecreation and Parks design standards. All major pack entrances along the Stony. Run confider south of Northern Parkway need to be identified with signage.



### 5. SIGNAGE

LOWER STONY RUN STRATEGIC PLAN Capite Projects







## **For Discussion Tonite**

- A. Walking Path Stabilization
- B. Accessibility
- C. Invasive Removal/Planting
- D. Potential Off-Leash Areas
- E. City/WPCA/JHU Lease Agreement Update
- F. Long-Term Opportunities to Monitor

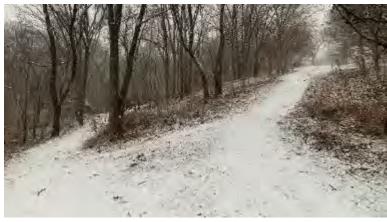






# A. Potential ADA







# A. Potential ADA







# A. Potential ADA







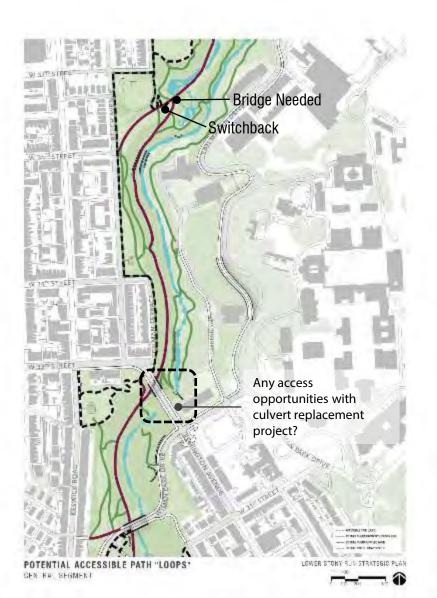




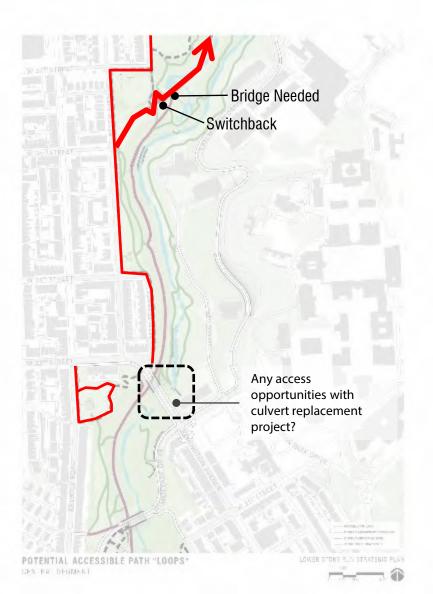














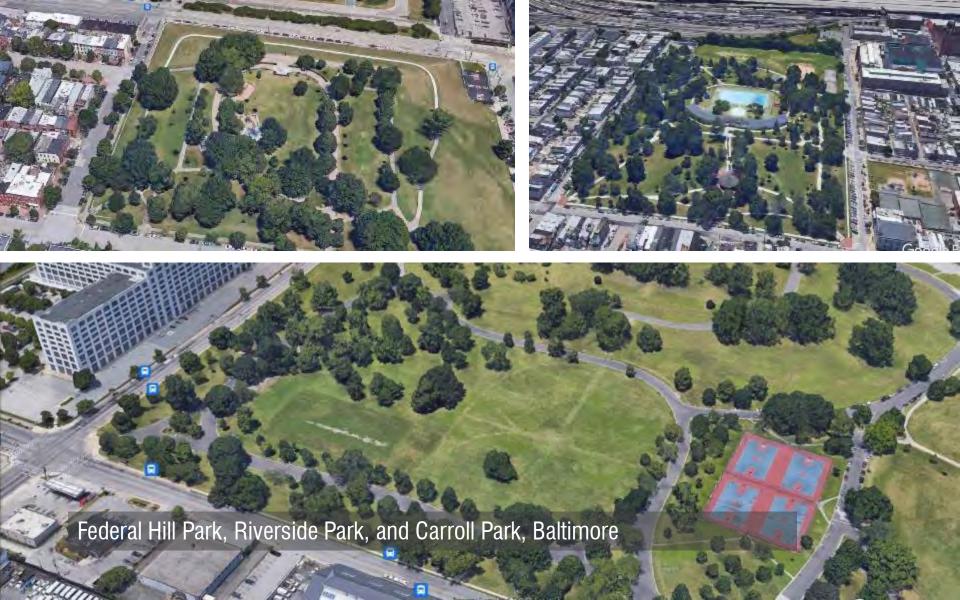
POTENTIAL ACCESSIBLE PATH "LOOPS" SOUTHERN SEGMENT

LOWER STONY BUN STRATEGIO PLAN



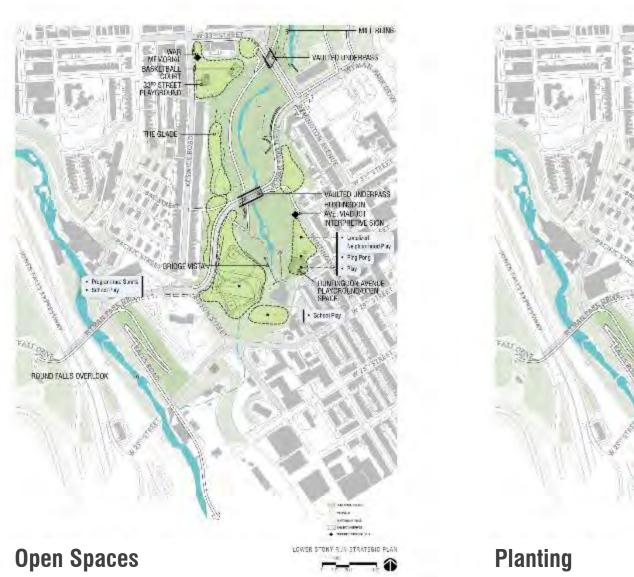


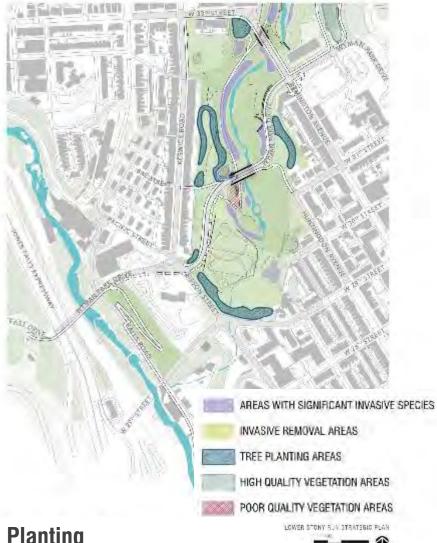














# **Dog Parks in Parks**

- Having off-leash areas for dog owners is important for urban livability and wanting to attract and retain city residents.
- Knowing children, families, and individuals can feel safe in urban parks is important for urban livability and wanting to attract and retain city residents.

# **How Strategic Plan will Address**

- The Lower Stony Run Strategic Plan will not define the solution for off-leash areas and policies which will require a longer timeline and more detailed process.
- Rather, the Plan will identify approaches/areas that can be explored in more detail at a future time.
- It will identify potential candidate areas that could be vetted later and identify unique considerations for each of these areas.
- Focus group discussion –March/April (Date TBD)



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## GENERAL DEFINITION DESIGN ELEMENTS OF DOG PARKS OF LEASUAGES

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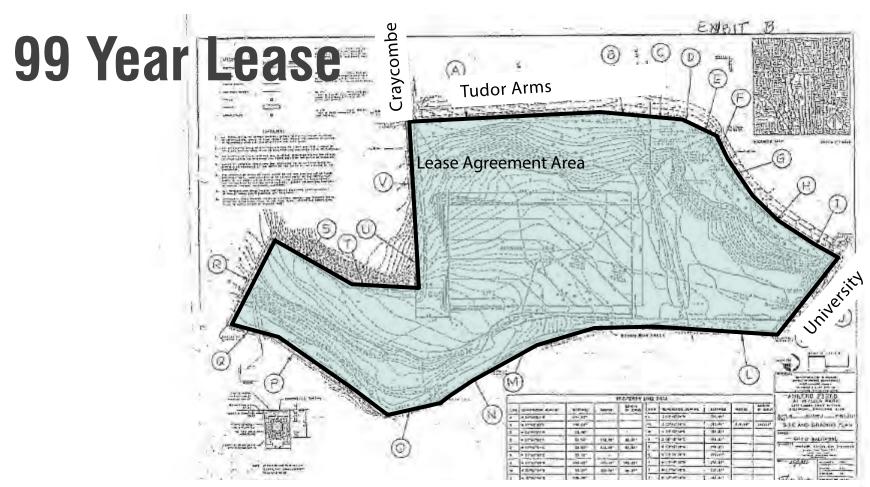
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### GENERAL DEFINITION/DESIGN ELEMENTS OF DOG PARKS/OFF LEASH AREAS

A Fenced Dog Run is a special fenced area for dogs to exercise and socialize. Design elements may include a five (5') feet perimeter fence, special surface for adequate drainage and ease of cleaning, shade, benches, double gates for entry, dog water fountain and water source for cleaning the run, covered trash receptacles and dog waste bag dispenser.

An Off-leash Dog Area is a definable space within a park that is identified by signage as available for off-leash dog activity. The space is not enclosed in fencing, but is defined by park elements such as topography, landscaping or pathways. Design elements may include shade trees, a dog water fountain, benches, dog waste dispenser and covered trash receptacles. Some fencing, four (4') foot with landscaping, and may be required to separate the dog area from nearby roadways.



November 14, 1984 Lease Agreement (Recreation and Parks Board/JHU/WPCA)

## **Option 1-Status Quo**

- Recognize City does not have resources to regularly enforce and accept that enforcement will be sporadic and perceived as unfair
- Depend upon self-enforcement/regulation (most effective if coming from within dog-owner community)
- Lobby for stronger/more consistent enforcement and required resources or changes in City policies (political approach)
- Consider fenced "no dog" zones (such as playground areas)
- Post polices and park courtesies in visible locations

Challenge: Continued on-going conflicts/frustrations



## **Option 2-Fenced Dog Park**

- City regulations currently define "Fenced Dog Run" but not "Fenced Dog Park"
- Work with Recreation and Parks to update guidelines/policy
- Determine one or multiple areas
- Recognize may require sacrifice of other park uses and/or flexibility
- Fenced area should not obstruct access to other park areas
- Ideally 1 acre (1/2 acre minimum)

Challenge: Cost, Maintenance, Membership?



## **Option 3-Off-Leash Areas/Hours**

- Work with Recreation and Parks to update guidelines/policy
- Determine time periods (morning and evening?)
- Follow Recreation and Parks criteria/process
- Clearly post designated areas and hours
- Those uncomfortable with dogs can know to avoid the area at those times
- Ideally minimum of 1 acre

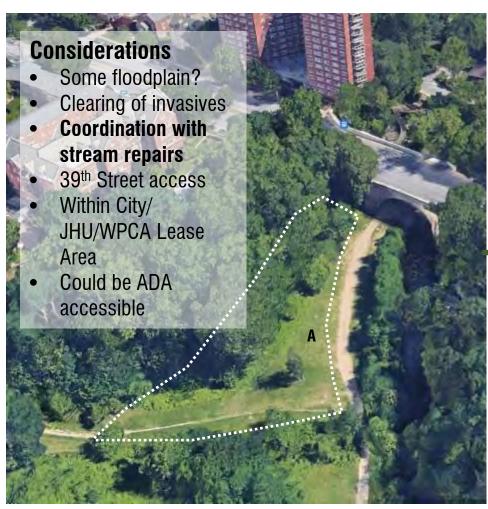
Challenge: Enforcement

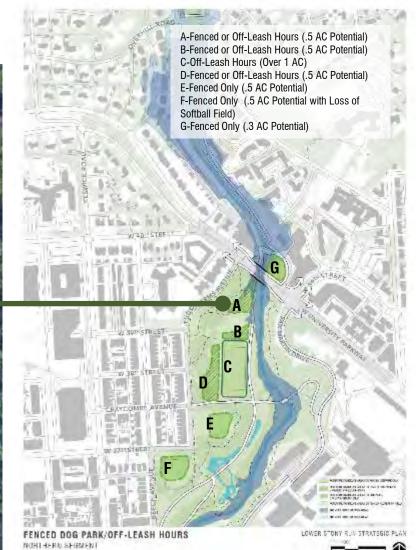


## Others?



### **Potential Areas**

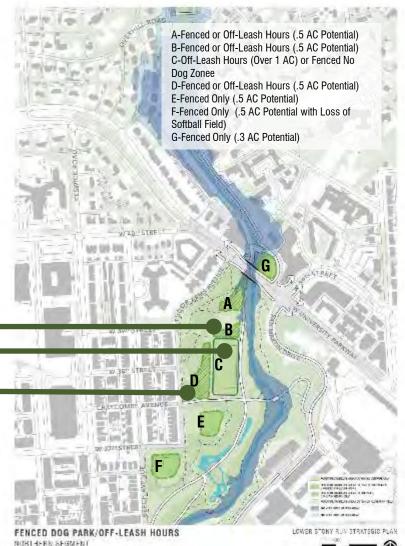




### **Considerations**

- Clearing of invasives and drainage (D)
- Coordination with stream repairs (B)
- Within City/ JHU/WPCA Lease Area
- City and JHU needs for athletic field size/usage
- Potential off-leash hours (A, B, D) if C is fenced for sports?





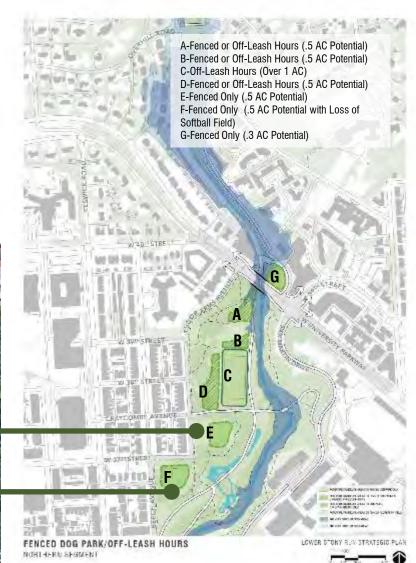




#### **Considerations**

- Ability to maintain community gathering area (E)
- Loss of ballfield (F)
- Loss of informal soccer field (E)
- Sensitivity to visual impacts
- Alternatives: Potential fenced "No Dog Zones"?
- Could be ADA accessible
- Close to residences (F)







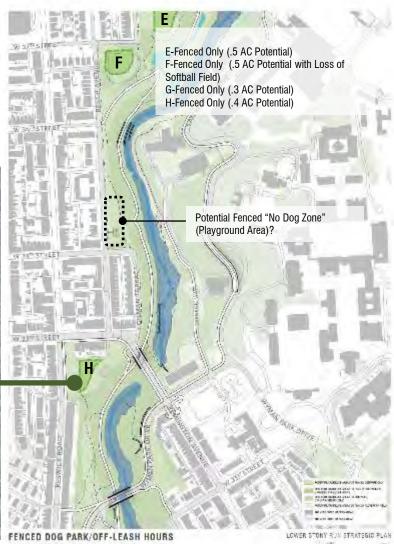




#### **Considerations**

- Ability to maintain community gathering area
- Sensitivity to visual impacts
- Alternative: Potential fenced "No Dog Zone"?
- Could be ADA accessible







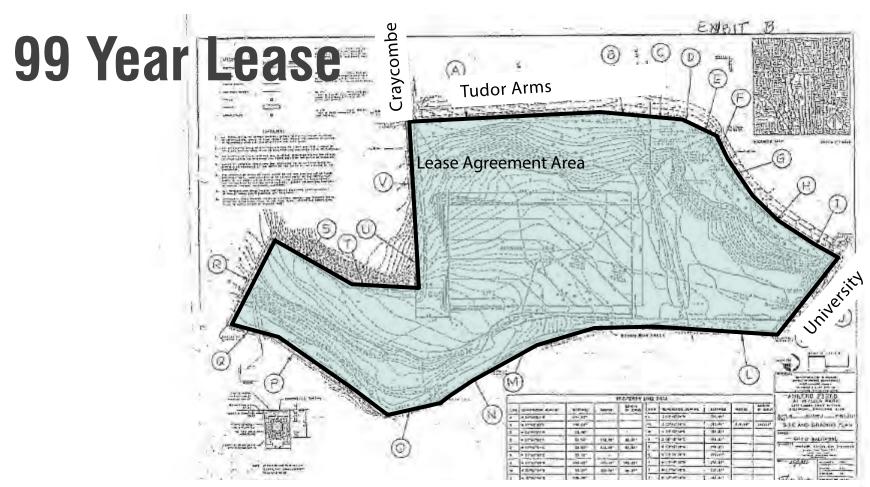


FLOODPLAIN SUDTHERN SEGMENT

OWER STONY BUN STRATEGIC PLAN

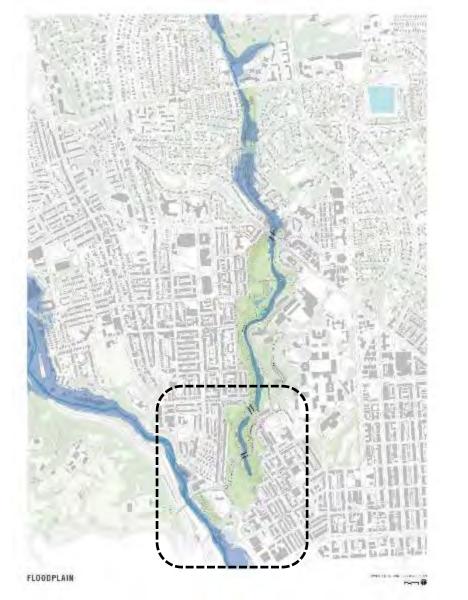


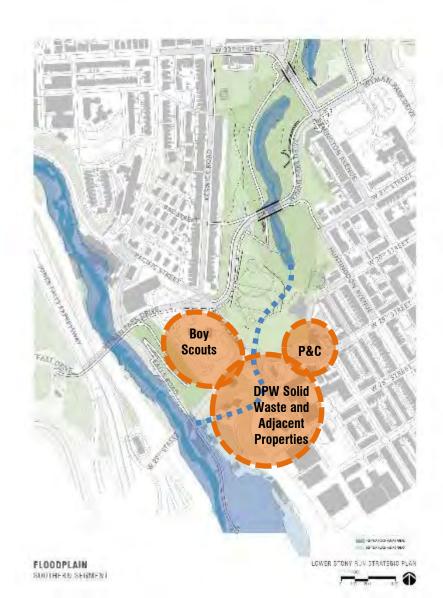




November 14, 1984 Lease Agreement (Recreation and Parks Board/JHU/WPCA)







# **Long-Term Opportunities**

### How can changes (if they occur) reinforce and improve:

- 1. Connections between Stony Run and Jones Falls?
- 2. Connections with Remington?
- 3. Traffic-calming and pedestrian safety?
- 4. Activation/programming of park spaces?
- 5. Environmental health/hydraulic function of Stony Run and Jones Falls?
- 6. Other?



# General (Consistent with USRSP)

G1 Water Quality Testing

G2 Stream Bank Repair

G3 Pathway Stabilization/Repair

G4 Invasive Plant Removal/New Plantings

G5 Bird Box Project/Wildlife Habitats

**G6** Encroachment

G7 Signage

G8 Site Amenities

**G9** Property Line Demarcation

G10 Leash Policy

G11 Bike Usage

G12 Park Name and Recognition

#### **Programming**

G13 Gatherings/Events

G14 Permitting

G15 Tours

G16 Memorials/Recognition Markers

G17 Public Art

\* USRSP= Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan





### **Schedule Milestones**

1.	Steering Committee Meetings	9/2021 12/2021 02/2022 06/2022
2.	Stakeholder Group Representativ	es 11/2-12/2022
3.	Community Outreach #1	11/4/2021
4.	Site Walks 1	1/13 and 11/21/2021
5.	Capital State Bond Submission	01/2022
6.	Survey	02/2022
7.	Community Outreach #2	03/2022
8.	Focus Group Discussions	03-04/2022
9.	Draft Plan	04/2022
9.	Community Outreach #3	05/2022
10.	Final Plan	06/2022

### **Upcoming Opportunities for Engagement**

- 1. Community Outreach #2 (Tonite)
- 2. Online Comments (March 8-March 24)
- 3. Focus Group Discussions (March/April)
- 4. Community Outreach #3 (May)
- 5. Draft Plan Online (May)
- 6. General Online Comments (On-Going)





# Thank you!

Please visit the project website at:

https://lowerstonyrun.weebly.com/

